

Annexure VII

Non-Compliance Guidelines

“Catalogue of Sanctions”

Sanctions are given to farmers by the Local Group as a whole OR by the Local Group’s elected Ethics Council (if one was created).

Situations	Type of sanction
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missing Attendance at a required Field Day • Unsatisfactory production system 	<p>Verbal warning</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor violations of the standards or regulations • Repeated written warning for similar problem • Not responding to approval conditions 	<p><i>Short Suspension of Certification</i> Period determined by length of time it takes for the Grower to get a new peer inspection/consultation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated minor violations • Clear violation of the standards not threatening the organic integrity of the product 	<p><i>Suspension</i> for a fixed period after until farmer(s) take corrective actions.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear violation of the standards threatening the organic integrity of the product eg: use of prohibited pesticides or synthetic 	<p><i>Longer term suspension for 1 year</i> <i>Farmer may be moved back into “In Conversion” status</i></p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repeated violations leading to penalties, suspension or withdrawal of approval. • Obvious fraud • Intentional obstruction of the inspection eg: denying inspector access. • Refusal to respond to written requests for additional information 	<p><i>Termination of participation</i></p> <p>Farmer(s) banned from PGS membership either permanently or for a set period of time.</p>

The Right of Appeal

The farmer's can make an appeal to the Regional Council within 2 weeks of the date of notification of the sanction by the Local Group OR to the Local Group as a whole if there is an Ethics Council that implemented the sanction.